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## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE DISTR. 6 MAR 50

SUBJECT Armed Skirmish in Gradisce

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(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF  
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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. On the night of 23 December 1949, an armed skirmish occurred in the village of Gradisce, near the Yugoslav-Zone B border.
2. Elections were scheduled to be held in Gradisce in late December, and Yugoslav authorities were informed that an armed band had been organized with the aim of assassinating several political leaders. Police patrols in the Gradisce area were strengthened immediately and placed on twenty-four hour duty.
3. The evening of 23 December, three patrols, consisting of two military groups of five men each and a militia unit of five men, discovered a group of approximately ten armed men hiding near the villa of Anton Babic. The patrols ordered the men to step forward, and when the challenge was not answered a patrol opened fire with submachine guns. The men returned the fire and threw several hand grenades. Before militia reinforcements could be summoned, the men had successfully withdrawn, leaving behind one dead and a small supply of hand grenades. One militia man was also wounded and two military officers, who had been wounded, died the following day in the local hospital.
4. On the following day, the village of Gradisce was surrounded and all houses were thoroughly searched by militia, UDB and army sentries. A few villagers were arrested as suspects and taken to Postojna.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.  
Next Review Date: 2008

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